

PROJECT TITLE

Freeman Gulch Widening

2004 ITIP FUNDING NEED: \$1.52 M



Project Location: In Kern County – From Redrock Inyokern Road to Route 178

Co/Rte/KP/PM: Ker/14/KP73.9/100.2 PM45.9/62.3

Project Description: The project proposes to add traffic capacity and enhance circulation and safety to an existing expressway.

Project Scope: Alternatives to be studied include conversion from an existing two-lane expressway to four-lane expressway with controlled access.

Existing Funding: \$3.81 M for Support of PA&ED

Future Funding Need: \$83.43 M

Total Estimated Cost: \$87.24 M

Project Schedule:

PSR (PDS)	09/14/01
PA&ED	10/07
PS&E	3/11
RW	7/11
CON	12/11

The project will be funded through a partnership agreement between Caltrans and the Regional Transportation Planning Agencies of the Counties of Kern, Inyo and Mono sharing a 40%, 40%, 10%, and 10% split respectively. The RTPAs and Caltrans are now in the process of approving a “Memorandum of Understanding”.

PROJECT INFORMATION

Purpose & Need for the Project:

The project constitutes the principal access into the Inyo and Mono County recreation areas. The project would relieve congestion, separate oncoming traffic with a divided median, and breakup traffic queues by providing major passing opportunities. The project completes the upgrade to four lanes of the last “gap” segment of Route 14 between Mojave and the junction with Route 395.

Route 14 is an Interregional High Emphasis Focus Route and is essential to the economic development of the eastern Sierra region. It is consistent with the Transportation Concept Report, the Interregional Transportation Strategic Plan, and the Kern County Regional Transportation Plan.

Project Need:

The segment of Route 14 is experiencing safety and operational problems inherent to a two-lane

highway which is shared by an increasing mix of local commuters, trucks and recreational travelers.

Project Purpose:

The proposed project will:

- * Reduce congestion and improve travel time between Route 58 and the mountain recreational uses in Inyo and Mono Counties.
- * Constitutes a partnership between the Kern, Inyo and Mono Regional Transportation Planning Agencies and Caltrans.
- * Improve the movement of people and goods along Route 14.
- * Enhance the safety of the traveling public.
- * Improve the reliability and convenience of travel.
- * Respond to the District 6 Transportation Concept Report.
- * Respond to the Kern County Regional Transportation Plan
- * Respond to the Interregional Transportation Strategic Plan.